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INDIANA LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT

VOL. 8, No. 6

INDIANAPOLIS

APRIL-JUNE, 1928

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Issued in January, April, July and October. Distributed free of charge in Indiana.

Entered as second class matter June 13, 1911, at the postoffice at Indianapolis, Indiana, under the act of July 16, 1894. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Acts of October 3, 1917, authorized on June 29, 1918.

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THE BOOK TRUCK PAUSES TO DISPENSE ITS WARES

From Books and Men. Courtesy of the American Library Association.

## BOOKS THAT TRAVEL

### The County Library Brings Them to the Farm

By Julia Wright Merrill

Executive Assistant in Library Extension, American Library Association.

[We thank the Editor of *American Farming* for permission to publish Miss Merrill's article which appeared in the March number.]

Why not a public library on wheels, in this age of rural free delivery service and automobiles and airships? A "traveling library" need no longer be a box of books that comes by freight from the state capital and offers a limited range of choice. Instead, it is increasingly often a book automobile, which starts out from a headquarters at the county seat and holds several hundred books chosen to fit the tastes of the particular readers on that day's route.

The special body needed is built on a regular truck chassis. In a moderate climate the shelves face out, with doors that lift out of the way of the would-be readers. The space inside is used for packages of books that are to be left at service stations and perhaps for a folding table and chair, if neighborhood stops are to be made. In a severe climate the shelves are often put inside a big bus, so that the readers and librarian and books are protected from the elements.

This kind of traveling library has a traveling librarian—another advantage over the box of books. He, or oftener she, is a rural-minded person, who knows books thoroughly but is equally interested in people, who will remember that Mrs. Brown always wants a book of travel, that John Anderson is building a radio set and wants practical information, and that Tom Smith likes western stories better than anything else.

While a headquarters for the county library is being set up at the county seat and a book collection built up, regular traveling library routes are worked out, to

cover the county in a certain number of trips, repeating at regular intervals of a few weeks. Everyone knows when to expect a visit and books are ready to be exchanged.

Books, gasoline, tires, perhaps a lunch for the librarian, being ready, the book truck starts out bright and early for its day's run. It may drive some distance at first, for the people close to the city prefer to use the headquarters library. Then a country school is reached and out come teachers and children at the sound of the horn. The librarian helps each child find the right book—"Little Women" for one, the "Boy's Life of Lincoln" or "Treasure Island" for another, until all are supplied. Then she has time to leave pictures for the teacher who had telephoned to ask for something to make her geography lessons vivid.

Then the truck reaches the real country and stops at the individual farms. At the first, there is a young man who wanted to go to college but couldn't afford it. He is following a regular course of reading through the library. At the next farm, the mother of several small children says she has no time to read herself but wants picture books for them. When she sees "Feeding the Family," she decides she must read that, and grandfather takes a life of Theodore Roosevelt that has been brought especially for him.

Soon Liberty Center, a crossroads settlement, is reached. Here a collection of books is kept in the general store so that they may be available at any time. The librarian looks over the books, takes twenty or thirty that have been read, and leaves the same number of new ones. Again, books especially wanted by individual readers are left. If it were summer, and the children

out of school, they would gather in surprising numbers, the folding table would be set up beside the road and a picture like that on the first page could be taken.

At Pardeeville, farther on, a village of a thousand population, a real reading room has been provided in the village hall in charge of a local branch librarian. She has many questions to ask the county librarian, welcomes a large package of new books and looks over the book truck and selects a few more.

The book truck or traveling library fills in the gaps in county library service. Permanent centers, with changing collections, are established wherever possible. All of them, and the headquarters library itself, are at the service of the farmers. The book truck gives special attention to the rural schools and the isolated farms. Detailed operating plans vary from county to county: in one, the book truck must make many house-to-house stops; in another, it can reach groups; in still another, it may not be needed or may not be practicable. R. F. D. service is then utilized. Books may even have to go by muleback or dog sled to remote spots in the mountains, but county library books get there somehow.

For a county library system means books for every man, woman and child in the county who wants to read. It is indeed "of the county, by the county, for the county," though it may be built on a good county seat library already in operation. The laws of most states permit the establishment of such service, but the individual county must always decide for itself, through its county board or by popular vote, whether it is ready for a county library. The progressive counties therefore need not wait for the poorer, less developed sections of the state. A county library board is appointed, engages a librarian, and together they work out a general plan of operation to fit the particular county.

A county appropriation is necessary, to be sure, and taxes are high enough already. Perhaps a close scrutiny of the county budget may show room for economy in some

other department, to balance this new one. This happened recently in a California county. For, compared with schools and road building and courthouses, the total cost of county library service is a small item. Spread over a large population (the reason big cities can afford good libraries) it costs the average taxpayer no more per year than the price of one book—and he and all his family can have all the books they want. County commissioners have often said the county library tax was "popular"—a strange word indeed—because people felt they got so much for it.

The plan has been thoroughly tested, for county libraries began before good roads were common enough for the movement to spread. The first "book wagon" was a real wagon, drawn by a horse, but was soon replaced by an automobile. Now nearly three hundred counties in California and New Jersey, in Minnesota and Mississippi and in states in between, are making books as accessible as farm journals and newspapers. Each year sees a larger number added, twenty in 1927, as more country people know that good public library service is now possible for them as well as for city people.

The home and community department of the American Farm Bureau Federation and the National Grange have investigated the county library plan and given it the stamp of their endorsement. County Granges and Farm Bureaus have often been responsible for movements in individual counties. The American Library Association (86 East Randolph Street, Chicago) and the various state library extension agencies consider it the best means of providing public library service for rural districts and are ready to give information and help. And the library schools will welcome rural young people with a good foundation of general education who want to train for county library service—a field yet uncrowded which offers many satisfactions besides the necessary bread and butter.

"After the church and the school," said Theodore Roosevelt, "the free public library is the most effective influence for good in

America. The moral, mental and material benefits to be derived from a carefully selected collection of good books, free for the

use of all the people, cannot be over estimated. No community can afford to be without a library."

### THROUGH VANDERBURGH COUNTY IN A BOOK WAGON

I am going to take you on two imaginary trips through Vanderburgh County in our new book wagon. At eight-thirty we will meet at the Central Library where the county headquarters are and where the surplus book collection is shelved. First we shall see if the shelves in the truck are full and in order and if the magazine rack is well stocked. Then we must see that we have all requests for the schools to which we are going, and look after their new registrations and transfers. When we are all ready, we will make a brief sally down Main Street to the Terrace Garden Tea Room and the Piggly Wiggly; this will provide us with a lunch of sandwiches, fruit and cakes.

Now we are ready to start. This morning we are going to the county's model school, McCutchanville. It is a three-room school situated in a tiny hamlet, with three efficient teachers who live in the community and have the interest of the community very much at heart. Often the teachers are advised as to the day we are coming. We will say the principal who has the responsibility of the book collection knows we are coming and is prepared for us. She has put aside a number of books that she has selected from her collection to be returned because they are no longer being read, or must be mended. While the teachers, with the help of a few good readers among the pupils, are selecting some different books from the car, we are slipping the books to be returned with cards from our file. Then the new books are to be charged, the registration is looked after, and perhaps a story will be told in one of the rooms. Here each teacher keeps a record of the books read in her room by means of duplicate cards left in the books and at the end of the month gives the fig-

ures to the one responsible for the report. She enters the entire circulation on a sheet furnished by the library and mails it to headquarters each month. In other schools all the books are in one room designated as a "library room" and one teacher issues and keeps a record of all books read. Now that we have shelved the books in the truck that McCutchanville has returned, it is lunch time. We will eat in the school building and have a social hour with the teachers and pupils, or, as it is a clear, warm day, we will drive on, parking at some pleasant place along the road, and have our lunch in the open.

This afternoon we are going to two one-room schools. We will do practically the same work we did at McCutchanville except everything is on a smaller scale. One of these schools is in a community that reads little. Some special effort to encourage reading is put forth. The librarian finds a book and suggests to the teacher that it contains suitable stories to read or tell for opening exercises. Several good books are selected and discussed by the librarian, and if there is time a story is told. It is now four, all schools are out, and the book wagon makes its way back to Evansville.

Now today, our second day in the county, we are going on a route. We shall visit no schools, only homes. This is a community far from town where the houses are scattering and the schools not so numerous. More routes are traveled in the summer when the communities are no longer served by the schools than in the winter. However, three routes are maintained all the year 'round. Much the same preparation is made at Central Library before we start that was made yesterday. This route leads us first through a Catholic settlement

where there is a school, but where the priest influences the sisters not to take books. A little general store across the road from the school saves the neighborhood from being without books. The storekeeper willingly assumes the responsibility of the books and issues them. Every other month the librarian visits the store, changes the collection, and counts the circulation. The circulation is often over 200 for six weeks; the number of books in their collection averages seventy. This will be our first stop. After leaving the store we stop at the home of a large family. The response to our honking is the appearance of one of the boys and his mother carrying a bushel basket overflowing with books. While we discharge the bushel of books the family very carefully selects their new books, ranging from mystery stories for father to rhymes to read to Bobby, age four.

Each stop has its individual interest. Soon we come to three homes in a row, each inhabited by a former teacher, all intimate friends. One is a very old, frail lady who claims she is distantly related to the poet, Milton. She seldom leaves home and had practically quit reading until the librarian discovered her. These three friends exchange their books between visits of the librarian and one never knows where a book charged to one of them will be, but they never lose a book.

A few miles farther brings us to the other Catholic community in the county. The four-room school here has a sizable collection of books and the sisters manifest a sincere interest. We shall not stop at the school for lack of time, but we will stop at some of the homes. Now we turn back to town, stopping here and there on the way. So ends our second trip.

Now I know I promised you only two days in the county, but if you should care to go with me on Sunday morning I will take you to Sunday School at the Scott-Bluegrass church. After Sunday School we will go to the community house close by the church where a pleasant little upstairs room with a fireplace and large French windows is

equipped with shelves and is used as a library. This is open every other Sunday, and the library period is conducted by the librarian.

Then if you have liked our county well enough to return in midsummer, we will take you to two consolidated schools, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Each is open once a week at a definite time and their library period is conducted by the librarian just as a city school station is managed. Only the large schools have this service because we cannot crowd forty-six schools each with a library period into one week; nor is it necessary that the small schools have this service, for they are served by routes, stores, and home stations.

I hope you have enjoyed your time with us as much as I have enjoyed taking you on our imaginary trips.

MRS. ISABEL READING STARK,  
County Librarian.

"What I say is, who has ever gone out into high roads and hedges to bring literature home to the plain man? To bring it home to his business and bosom, as somebody says? The farther into the country you go, the fewer and worse books you find. I've spent several years joggling around with this citadel of crime, and by the bones of Ben Ezra I don't think I ever found a really good book (except the Bible) at a farmhouse yet, unless I put it there myself. The mandarins of culture—what do they do to teach the common folk to read? It's no good writing down lists of books for farmers and compiling five-foot shelves; you've got to go out and visit the people yourself—take the books to them, talk to the teachers and bully the editors of country newspapers and farm magazines and tell the children stories—and then little by little you begin to get good books circulating in the veins of the nation. It's a great work, mind you! It's like carrying the Holy Grail to some of these way-back farmhouses. And I wish there were a thousand Parnassuses instead of this one."

CHRISTOPHER MORLEY.

### RURAL LIBRARIES

It seems but yesterday as I recall girlhood days and the great hunger I had for books. Books and magazines were scarce in our home, so I eagerly sought after everything readable that came my way. My field of reading was varied, ranging from Pinkham to Shakespeare, but no difference as to subjects, just anything that savoured of new ideas was meat and drink to me. How I hungered for greater opportunities to satisfy my craving. The happiest moments of my life each week were realized when grandmother passed on a copy of the Youth's Companion to me.

Things are very different now. One may live in a rural district today and have the entire world for a stage whenever plans have been developed for the realization of rural libraries. Communities may have the same benefits in the world of books as great cities may offer. There is a wonderful joy in seeing the shelves of the library generously filled with the sort of reading material that will mean a wider knowledge and

understanding and the opportunity for our people to attain the culture and refinement that comes from contact through the world of literature.

In my work now as a state director of social and educational work in the Indiana Farm Bureau Federation I find the library is indispensable. Not only do I find this to be the case but those who are working with me throughout the state have derived untold benefits from our library system. Any time that a request may come relative to some phase of program building or information on any line that cannot be obtained in the office it takes but a few minutes to get in touch with those who are specializing in that very thing and a great service is rendered that cannot be measured in terms of dollars and cents.

The hope of rural America lies in education. Let's have more rural libraries.

MRS. VERA L. HATCH,  
Director, Social and Educational Dept.,  
Indiana Farm Bureau Federation.

### IS COUNTY LIBRARY WORK WORTH WHILE?

#### ALLEN COUNTY SAYS IT IS!

The Library privilege means to Allen County all the difference between having free access to comparatively no books at all and having access to a collection of over 160,000 books. For county residents, besides having Branch Libraries and Deposits of books in easily reached places throughout the county, also have free access to all the material in the Main Library in Fort Wayne. All this instead of inadequate collections of books scattered about and accessible to only a few people.

In 1920, before the County Library privilege went into effect, the circulation in the county amounted to fifty or a hundred books; in 1927, six years after the County Library privilege became effective, the circulation in the county was 98,000 books.

We would like to suggest that, in order to successfully carry on this most important phase of library work, a special assistant be added to the extension division of the State Library to help in organizing and visiting county libraries as it has an assistant for organizing and visiting school libraries.

MARGARET M. COLERICK.

"The library of wisdom is more precious than all riches, and nothing that can be wished for is worthy to be compared with it. Whosoever, therefore, acknowledges himself to be a zealous follower of truth, of happiness, of wisdom, of science, or even of faith, must of necessity make himself a lover of books."

—From the Latin.

## WHAT THE COUNTY LIBRARY CAN DO FOR THE SCHOOLS

In order to meet the needs of our growing educational system every school should have a well chosen collection of books for the use of both the teachers and the pupils. Each elementary school needs the best children's books—books which will develop a reading habit and a taste for the best in literature—poetry, fairy tales, mythology, nature books, travel, biography, history, boys' books of mechanics, good wholesome stories for both boys and girls, good attractive magazines. For each junior and senior high school a library working as the laboratory of every department is an essential. Who is going to select the best books for these needs? How can the best libraries be had with the least expense?

The county library has as its head and on its staff people who are trained to know books and to select books for specific uses. Some county libraries have a school librarian who devotes all her time to studying the needs of the schools and providing for them. Each school can be a library station. Books best suited to each can be brought to the school and exchanged every month. Without the county library each school may have \$50.00 a year with which to buy books. With the county library it may receive \$50.00 worth of books in September which are read and enjoyed; in October that group may be taken to the neighboring school and

another brought here. Under this plan the school can have \$400.00 worth of books during a school year of eight months. Not only that, but during the months the school is closed, books can be borrowed from the library station in the community or from a book truck. The county library will take care that all these books are kept in good condition and rebound or replaced when necessary. Supplementary readers, which each school is required to use, can be bought by the schools, circulated and cared for by the county library. Again this would cost each school only about one-eighth as much as to provide sets for itself.

Junior and senior high schools can join the county library, pay in the amount of money which it would be necessary to spend each year to build up the school library and become a branch library. They would also have the advantage of wise book selection and the use of any books from the whole collection in their own school library room. The county librarian can also provide any material which she does not own, by a loan from the state library. From the county library each school can have the use of the best and the most books for its money, has the advantage also of expert reference help, library organization, care and protection of books, and training in the best use of books and libraries.

—H. M. C.

## COUNTY LIBRARIES IN INDIANA: WHY?

The library objective in a state should be a complete and adequate service to all citizens. To be complete all libraries should be conveniently located for the people generally. To give adequate service libraries should progressively improve in their ability to supply books and information, to reach all classes of a community, to give timely and full response to knowledge seekers, to meet new needs in any direction, as they arise, and to be on the alert for all

opportunities for helpfulness. The history of libraries in Indiana is one of expanding privileges and extending areas.

The township extension act of 1911 aimed at a more complete service to all the people. Let us acknowledge fully the great good it has accomplished in many ways. The mere fact, however, that today there are only 318 townships reached and that of these 114 are included in our thirteen county libraries provokes a question as to what

more can be accomplished in that direction. Twenty per cent of our public libraries have not extended service outside of the city, twenty per cent have extended service to more than one township and the remaining sixty per cent, 136 libraries, serve the one township in which they are located. There still remain seven hundred townships without any local service.

Of the population now reached by libraries (all figures based on the 1920 census) only twenty per cent live outside the towns giving the library service. In the total population thirty per cent or 900,000 people still have no local libraries. The problem is thus seen to be one of finding a better way to reach those in rural communities and the farming districts.

The town people generally have been well provided with libraries. Almost too well in fact when we consider the amount of money available to conduct them. The following little table of incomes is worthy of study:

#### LIBRARY INCOMES, 1926-1927

Income under \$5,000.....	.....150 libraries, 71 per cent
Income under 4,000.....	.....131 libraries, 60 per cent
Income under 3,000.....	.....111 libraries, 51 per cent
Income under 2,000.....	.....76 libraries, 35 per cent

Income under 1,000.....  
..... 24 libraries, 11 per cent

These figures indicate that some of our libraries are managing to get along on too small a margin for the most effective work. They show us that a majority of our libraries would be able to develop more adequately if their income could be increased to a reasonable amount. In most cases restricted resources are not due to low tax rates or valuations but to the small number of people supporting the library.

The area in which effective library service can be given should be enlarged. That would bring more people to the support of the library and increase its resources. Means are now available in motor transport and good roads to make possible a wider area of service and have good results therein. The one established political unit that meets these conditions is the county. In no case in this state is the area too great for good results. Other organizations have found the county a good unit for their work. Success in thirteen counties certainly indicates that other counties should have equal success. The county library gives the best assurance of a future when libraries will most completely and adequately meet the needs of the people of our state.

—L. J. B.

### COUNTY LIBRARIES IN INDIANA: HOW?

The county library law now in effect in Indiana was enacted in 1917. A few amendments have been made since that date. County libraries can be established in any county in Indiana. The law provides for one in counties where there are no libraries, and in counties where there are already one or more libraries. The first provision—where there is no tax-supported free public library, can apply to only one county in our state, Crawford, as it is the only county of the ninety-two that does not have at least one library. The county libraries in Scott,

Jennings and Brown counties were established under this provision of the law.

Of most practical value is county extension service from an established public library. (This may be *any* library in the county, not necessarily in county seat.)

1. The Library Board of an established public library must first file notice with the county commissioners of the county in which such library is located of the consent of the Library Board to extend service to all people in the county not already having free library service.

2. Tax Levy. The county commissioners may levy a tax, without a petition, or they must levy the tax on petition of twenty-five resident freeholders of each township in the county. The tax rate shall be not less than one-tenth of a mill, and not more than one mill on each dollar of taxable valuation in the county. This tax will be upon the property of any city or incorporated town in the county that is not already taxed for public library purposes as well as upon rural property. Other established libraries in the county may, with the consent of the county library Board after it is appointed, become a part of the county system or they may remain as before—an independent library. The county library in the latter case would not affect them at all. After the establishment of the library and the appointment of a Board (after the first year) the Library Board levies this tax. The minimum is then two-tenths of a mill and the maximum one mill. All money received is paid to the city treasurer and kept in the library fund. The tax shall be continued so long as ten per cent of the inhabitants of the districts so taxed are found to be users of the library, or when it is less than ten per cent the county commissioners *may* continue the tax if they wish.

3. Library Board. Four members are added to the city or town Library Board. Two are appointed by the county commissioners—one of whom shall be a woman. Two are appointed by the county superintendent of schools—one of whom shall be a woman. All appointees shall be residents of some part of the county contributing a tax for this purpose outside of the city limits. They shall have the same qualifications and equal authority with other members of the public library board in levying and expending all county taxes and in maintaining library service for the inhabitants of the county outside of the city in which the library is situated. These county members do not vote on matters pertaining to anything except county service and funds. The county tax for library service gives the county people no property rights, so

therefore any questions concerning the library building are decided upon only by the city board members.

Few people except those living in counties where there are county libraries know how they are established and how they function. A county library is a system of book distribution. It aims at equal service for town and country. The established library extending the service is the main supply house and distributions are made throughout the county. To one having the use of a good public library this means much, but to the one who lives beyond the bounds of this service, the mere statement of a "system of book distribution" means little. If we wish to give all equal library service, we must first educate our people as to what it will mean to them, we must let them know what a county library really is, how it operates, and how they benefit from its establishment. First, then, we must create the public sentiment throughout the county in favor of the county library. To do this, the quickest and most effective way is to first interest prominent people throughout the county. Work should be systematically planned and such organizations as Farm bureaus, Parent-Teachers associations, women's clubs, with the county commissioners, county superintendent of schools, county agricultural agent, trustees, etc., should be interviewed by the librarian and board members, and the plan explained. When they are convinced that the county library is the best thing for their people, they can help suggest and direct the campaign of education. The people pay the tax that supports a county library, and they must want the service or they will seriously object to the tax. To many of them the library will mean only a beautiful building. We must make them see that the county library is book service. The system centers about the main library—all library needs throughout the county are filled from there. It finds out the wants and tastes of the people, and takes books to them. This service is given by making the central library collection open to them, by the es-

establishment of branches in smaller towns in the county equipped to meet the needs of readers and students and by stations at convenient places in the county,—in stores, homes, churches, schools, post offices, filling stations, or elsewhere. Frequent changes of books are made between these stations. A local librarian, under supervision of a county librarian, is in charge of these branches and stations and is paid a small salary, generally according to circulation. Rural mail service and parcel post takes books direct to any individual in the county. Book trucks may be a very important factor in rural library service. They carry books from station to station. Routes may be established for house-to-house service, and in this way hundreds of books at regular intervals will be carried direct to the homes, for the entire family to choose from. Teachers may keep collections in their rooms, for class use and for circulation, and the county library takes care of all the school needs for library books. The librarian in charge of all this work will be one who has a keen interest in all the county people. She will be one of them—directing and helping, and bringing to them a widely varied service.

The county library will mean books and magazines for every man, woman and child in the county. Will they be willing to pay the tax that will give them this? Many will, but many will not, until we have made them understand and realize what it will mean. First of all, will our Boards in established libraries be willing to extend this service? Most will, though some object. They fear that the individuality of their library will be lost, they fear their town people will suffer from lack of service, they hate to "share" with their neighbors, in fact they become selfish citizens, with interest only in their own town or city. Extension of county service can only mean better things for them. It makes their town a meeting place for the entire county—it makes them the hub of the wheel, it broadens their interest, it brings new ideas to them, it educates their neighbors and in

every way benefits them educationally and financially. One room in the library should be used for the county work and the collection of books kept separate. The work in the city goes on just the same only with broadened interest. They simply share privileges with all residents of the county. The books from the local collection can be circulated in the county, and a small charge made for their use. In like manner the local community may borrow from the county collection.

The question of funds is always brought up. The county fund should be kept and spent separately. About fifteen to twenty-five per cent should be put in the general fund to pay for general maintenance expense, and the rest should be spent for county service only, with strict separate accounts kept. If this is done, no question can come up as to the unfairness of spending the money. The words "increase in tax" bring up all kinds of objections immediately. The taxpayer who is interested in his family and his community would not be content to live where there is no progress. To improve a community there must be taxes. The increase necessary for the county library is very low. The average taxpayer's library tax per year is not more—and many are less—than the price of one good book, or the subscription to a magazine. Yet, for this small sum the entire family has directed service and the use of thousands of books. The county library tax averages about four cents on the hundred dollars. A county library is more economical for the smaller communities. They cannot afford separate administration. It pools the money of all, and thus gives more and better service. Unnecessary duplication of books and of service is eliminated, yet everyone in the county—whether residents of city or country—have equal service.

—H. B. W.

Books, like friendships, grow into our lives, modify and stimulate them, and are sometimes their brightest sunshine.

—Lady Milnes Gaskell.

## COUNTY LIBRARY REPORTS

We are glad to give in more detail the facts about our county libraries than is given in our annual printed report. The figures given are generally for the year ending in July 1927. These details should be of special interest to any library contemplating the extension of service to its county. The Bloomington Public Library has recently voted to extend library service to Monroe County and similarly the Portland Public Library to Jay County.

## Public Library of Fort Wayne and Allen County

Serves twenty (20) townships (all)

## Income

City .....	\$109,508
County .....	23,888
Other sources .....	4,205

Total ..... \$137,601

City population (est.)... 110,835

County population ..... 30,000

Total ..... 140,835

## Number of books

City .....	137,994
County .....	19,427

Total ..... 157,421

## Circulation

City .....	755,340
County .....	98,004

Total ..... 853,344

## Number of borrowers

City .....	47,071
County .....	8,205

Total ..... 55,276

## Agencies

Main library .....	1
Branches .....	7
Sub-Branches .....	
City .....	1
County .....	4

5

## Stations

City .....	27
County .....	17
	44
Other agencies .....	
City .....	43
County .....	147
	190

Total ..... 247

Librarian: Margaret M. Colerick.

County Librarian: Margaret Winning.

Library Tax Rate: City .05; County .03.

The circulation of School Library Leaves, the school bulletin of the Public Library of Fort Wayne and Allen County, has reached a total of 1,105 copies mailed out each month.

The Public Library of Fort Wayne and Allen County held OPEN HOUSE the week of January 23-28, Achievement Week in Fort Wayne. During this time 400 guests were conducted from one Department of the Library to another and told the work done by each. Three window displays downtown showed the work of the Library also. One pictured the History of the Library in the background and in the foreground showed the work done by the different Departments at the present time. The second window pictured the three-fold work of the County Department in Branch Libraries, Schools, and Deposit Stations. The third window, by means of a model of the Main Library and small blocks of wood for each Agency, pictured the way the Public Library reaches the people of the City and County by means of Branches, Schools, Stations, etc.

The past year the County Department has been working to bring a closer connection between those living outside the city and the Public Library. During the summer and fall, house to house surveys were made in the communities where the four Branch Libraries are located. During Good Book

Week many came to the branches to see posters which were on display for the contest. Each semester library instruction was given to the High School pupils in the branch towns; part of the classes meeting at the library, and having practical work, and part at the school on the use of the dictionary and atlas and the parts of a book. Regular monthly story-hours have been conducted at the Branch Libraries with occasional stories at some of the schools. Frequent visits have been made to the Deposit Stations and an attempt has been made to keep the book collection freshened and alive. The individual requests for material, both recreational and informational, is increasing and telephones have been installed in two branches to help in this service. Three Farmers' Institutes, Harlan, Hometown and Yoder, were attended with an exhibit and a speaker furnished. Also other county meetings were attended as circumstances permitted. Articles, lists of books and library news have been published regularly in the three county papers. Many throughout the country have been tuning in on the four nights when the Public Library broadcasted stories and book reviews. Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday night for stories and Friday night for book reviews; Thursday night being reserved for the old folk tales in order that the children farther away from books might not miss these favorites. Posters in the Branch Libraries have done much to attract the reader to different types of books. The Vacation Reading lists are ready for the children to encourage their reading during the summer months. Those reading ten books from their list will receive a diploma in the fall, and those reading twenty will receive a gold star diploma. County library work is gradually working into the consciousness of the people in the outlying districts.

### Columbus-Bartholomew County Library

Serves 14 twps. (all)

#### Income

County .....	\$10,316
Other sources .....	376

Total .....	\$10,692
Population of Columbus.....	8,990
Rural population .....	14,897
Number of books.....	23,374
Circulation .....	162,776
Number of borrowers.....	6,178

Branches, 1.

Stations, 31.

(Schools, 50).

Librarian, Gladys Walker.

Library tax rate, city, .04; county .02.

Book Week stands foremost among our library activities for the year. The library staff was assisted by the Art League and the Bobbs-Merrill publishing company in making the "Book Fair" an outstanding event. Programs were held every afternoon during the week, tea being served afterwards. Speakers were Marcus Dickey, C. D. LaFollette, Mrs. Cora Young Wiles, Mrs. Lelia Mayes, and Mr. Donald DuShane. Suitable musical numbers were given each afternoon. The affair was concluded with a display of the work done by the "Sketch Club" of the High School.

GLADYS WALKER.

### Fowler-Benton County Library

Serves 7 twps. 4 townships have own service.

#### Income

City .....	\$961
Townships .....	5,893
Other sources .....	143

Total .....	\$6,997
Population of Fowler.....	1,442
Rural population .....	5,492
Number of books.....	12,853

Circulation .....83,291  
 Number of borrowers..... 3,357  
 Stations, 16.  
 Librarian, Mrs. Kate B. Hay.  
 Library tax rate, city, .04; twps. .04 and .02.

We had 7 townships for six months of the year and 6 townships for the balance. York township started independent service Jan. 1, 1927.

Benton County Library has enjoyed a very busy year. We usually think of the summer as a time to relax, take inventory, and do various things that have been postponed from time to time, but our summer of 1927 did not give us much time for relaxation. The children's vacation reading was of lively interest all summer. We gave each child a record book in which to keep a report of all books read and most of the children were very proud of these book lists.

A picture show at the close of the "Vacation reading contest" has become an annual event of the year and the children eagerly await the time. This year we gave "Nanook of the North" on Sept. 1st to a group of successful readers. We secured the film from the Indiana University and our County Agent furnished the machine and operated it for us.

The amount of reference work increases each year as the clubs, schools and other organizations begin to realize the help that can be obtained at the County Library. In spite of the fact that a number of books were bought this year to supplement the extension work for Teachers' Institutes, it has also been necessary to borrow quite frequently from the State Library.

We have been pleased over the fact that so many of our primary teachers have called on us this winter for scrap book material. We have been taking book covers and other colored pictures to the primary rooms in the township schools which not only created an interest in the books but also the demand for the scrap books.

Miss Mildred Hall, who resigned her position as assistant in the early spring, was married to Mr. Johnson Childress on May

7th. Her position was filled by Miss Dorothy Washburn.

MRS. KATE B. HAY.

#### Brown County Public Library

Serves 5 twps. (all)

#### Income

County .....\$2,055  
 Other sources .....

Total .....\$2,055

Population of Nashville..... 323  
 Rural population ..... 6,696  
 Number of books..... 6,285  
 Circulation .....15,873  
 Number of borrowers..... 1,804  
 Stations, 7.

Branch, 1.

Librarian, Mrs. Helen M. Allison.

Library tax rate, County .07.

During the past year we have had collections of from 50 to 100 books out at twenty schools, thirteen homes, and a station at Helmsburg which is open two afternoons a week. There has been one reading club started during the winter.

MRS. HELEN M. ALLISON.

#### Logansport—Cass County Library

Serves 12 twps. (2 twps. have own service)

#### Income

City .....\$10,204  
 Townships ..... 7,844  
 Other sources ..... 2,241

Total .....\$20,289

Population of Logansport..... 21,626  
 Rural population ..... 12,936  
 Number of books..... 52,012  
 Circulation .....250,793  
 Number of borrowers..... 19,309  
 Branches, 1.

Stations, 5 (book wagon).

Librarian, Alice D. Stevens.

County librarian, Edna M. Holden.

Library tax rate, city .06, townships .03.

In September, 1927, our old Dodge truck was replaced with a new Graham  $\frac{3}{4}$ -ton

truck with a special body. The new truck differs from the others by dividing doors—the upper part raising to form a canopy and the lower third dropping to form a shelf. We feel that this is quite an improvement over the doors that swing outward. The addition of a small book case built on the inside just back of the driver's seat makes it possible for the house to house patrons to choose his or her book on the inside when weather conditions are unfavorable for using the outside shelves. The new truck has shelf room for approximately 450 books. This is our fourth book truck and it is rather interesting to watch our growth in each one. We first had a Ford carrying 200 books, then a Chevrolet carrying 300 (this truck and contents burned in a Public Garage Fire here); next we purchased a Dodge to carry 375 books; and finally in September we felt we needed still more room and purchased another Dodge to carry 450 books.

The work with schools was again given special attention with the result that many more teachers ask for deposits of books to correlate with the text book material. Book reviews were required in almost all the seventh and eighth grades. The book lists were compiled in co-operation with the Librarians and the books loaned from the Library. This was an aid in helping the older children keep the "Library Habit."

The circulation in the county reached 9,958 in February, 1928, which is the highest for any one month in the eight years of county service.

EDNA M. HOLDEN.

#### Rochester—Fulton County Library

Serves 6 twps. 2 townships have own service.

##### Income

City .....	\$2,373
Townships .....	6,197
Other sources .....	347
Total .....	\$8,917

Population of Rochester.....	3,720
Rural population .....	8,283
Number of books.....	14,832
Circulation .....	89,475
Number of borrowers.....	4,177
Sub-branches, 1.	
Stations 2, and book truck.	
Librarian, Grace Stingly.	
Library tax rate, city .05, twps. .03 and .035.	

There has been a marked increase in number of books loaned in extension work both on the truck and at the sub-branch. For a year the library has run the following in the classified advertisements of a daily newspaper:

#### YOU

Own it, why not use it—Rochester-Fulton County Library.

This constant reminder seems to be bearing fruit. News notes on the new books attract the attention of rural patrons as well as those in the city. Posters down town also serve a good purpose. A report of the work of the three libraries in the county is given each year at the meeting of the county federation of Woman's Clubs.

GRACE STINGLY.

#### Madison—Jefferson County Public Library

Serves 10 twps. (all).

##### Income

County .....	\$6,243
Other sources .....	1,038
Total .....	\$7,281

Population of Madison.....	6,711
Rural population .....	13,998
Number of books.....	13,641
Circulation .....	110,841
Number of borrowers.....	10,500
Stations, 22.	
(Schools, 1).	
Librarian, Nellie G. Harper.	
Library tax rate, city .05, county .04.	

NELLIE G. HARPER.

**Jennings County Public Library**

Serves 10 twps. (all).

**Income**

County .....	\$6,991
Other sources .....	137

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 Total .....\$7,128

Population of North Vernon.....	3,084
Rural population .....	10,196
Number of books.....	10,683
Circulation .....	94,273
Number of borrowers.....	9,148
Stations, 35.	

Librarian, Dorothy Wightman.

Library tax rate, county only .05.

(Tax rate raised for this next year to .07).

We have been working out a system whereby our books, especially the new books, are being more evenly distributed over the county. The Library Board has allowed the purchase of many new titles. Our readers may take out as many books on a card as they wish at one time except for the very newest of new fiction. The station workers are urged to change their collections often if only a few at a time that they may not have books standing on their shelves that are not in use. Their new books they pass around quickly so that they may have another so much sooner. Even our older books seem to be in greater demand than ever before and we feel that our readers are enjoying a greater variety of titles for selection.

DOROTHY WIGHTMAN.

**Rising Sun and Ohio County Public Library**

Serves 4 twps. (all).

**Income**

City .....	\$1,302
County .....	1,772
Other sources .....	39

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 Total .....\$3,113

Population of Rising Sun.....	1,411
Rural population .....	2,613
Number of books.....	6,422

Circulation .....21,418

Number of borrowers ..... 2,023

Stations, 4.

(Schools, 17).

Librarian, Mrs. Nettie V. McConnell.

Library tax rate, city .10, county .05.

Ohio is the smallest county in Indiana, and last year a reduction was made in the value of all taxable property in the three outlying townships. This has worked a hardship for the library in reducing our income several hundred dollars. Lack of funds is our greatest handicap. The county library service has been received with enthusiasm and we are compelled to refuse many calls for want of money to finance them. In spite of these drawbacks we feel that our county library service is a very real factor in the growth of Ohio County.

MRS. NETTIE V. MCCONNELL.

**Scott County Public Library**

Serves 5 twps. (all).

**Income**

County .....	\$5,740
Other sources .....	28

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 Total .....\$5,768

Population of Scottsburg.....	1,609
Rural population .....	5,815
Number of books.....	9,407
Circulation .....	38,157
Number of borrowers.....	2,426
Stations, 23.	

Librarian, Mrs. Kate Morrison Johnson.

Library tax rate, city .05, county .05.

**Switzerland County Public Library**

Serves 6 twps. (all).

**Income**

County .....	\$5,914
Other sources .....	127

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 Total .....\$6,041

Population of Vevay.....	1,175
Rural population .....	8,136
Number of books.....	12,704

Circulation .....58,255  
 Number of borrowers..... 4,891  
 Stations, 11.  
 Librarian, Jane M. North.  
 Library tax rate, city .09, county .09.

During the four months absence of the librarian Miss Fannie Shadday, the assistant librarian, very successfully carried on the county work. Between September first and April the first 7,594 books were delivered to the county schools and stations. In addition to this number many books were borrowed direct from the library by pupils, teachers and patrons living in the country.

The teachers' extension class and three institutes are held at library, which is being recognized more and more as an educational institution in the community.

JANE M. NORTH.

#### Liberty—Union County Public Library

Serves 6 twps. (all).

Income  
 County .....\$5,120  
 Other sources ..... 229  
 Total .....\$5,349

Population of Liberty..... 1,292  
 Rural population ..... 4,729  
 Number of books..... 7,423  
 Circulation .....39,500  
 Number of borrowers..... 2,345  
 Branches, 1.  
 Stations, 13.  
 Librarian, Esther Hamilton.  
 Library tax rate, city .03, county .03.

I have nothing in the way of unique adventures in library work to report. We have had a successful year. Most of our stations have been doing much better than last year. All but one of our townships have consolidated schools which contributes much to better use of the books. One of our staff spends one day a week in one of these schools, and we are hoping this scheme can be worked in some of the other stations, as it has proved quite successful.

ESTHER HAMILTON.

#### Evansville Public Library

##### Vanderburgh County Department

Serves 8 twps. (all).

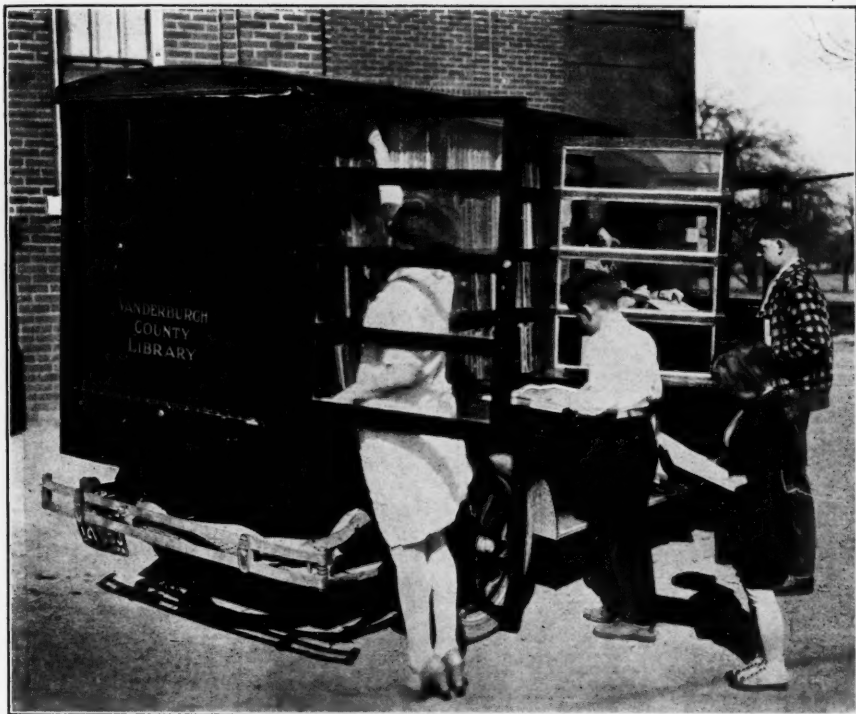
Income  
 City .....\$102,132 61  
 County ..... 9,356 95  
 Other sources ..... 2,773 46

Total .....\$114,263 02  
 Population of Evansville..... 85,264  
 Rural population ..... 7,029  
 Number of books (county)..... 18,519  
 Number of books (city).....120,949  
 Circulation (county) ..... 72,006  
 Circulation (city) .....613,538  
 Number of borrowers (county)..... 3,201  
 Number of borrowers (city)..... 31,967  
 Branches (city) ..... 7  
 Stations (county) ..... 53  
 Stations (city) ..... 26  
 Librarian, Ethel F. McCollough.  
 County librarian, Isabel Reading Stark.  
 Library tax rate, city .08, county .04.

As early as 1916 the public library had established book collections in the schools of Perry Township. In 1920 a survey of the county was made by Miss Georgie McAfee of the Evansville Public Library and Mr. K. W. Hemmer, county superintendent of schools. In September of that year a tax of one cent on the hundred dollars was levied. In 1921 library stations were started in every township, twenty-three in all, with Miss Georgie McAfee in charge of the work. In August of 1924 Miss Alta Funkhouser became county librarian and continued in this capacity until August, 1925, when Miss Isabel Reading, the present librarian, took charge. The work has grown steadily, there now being 53 county stations.

Concerning the work in Vanderburgh County, Miss Reading says: With a circulation total of 72,006 the County Department shows a small gain of 1,398 for 1927. Only one new all-year-round station was organized, the Anna Carson Home Station in Union Township. Thirteen summer stations were organized.

## BOOK TRUCK OF THE VANDERBURGH COUNTY LIBRARY



*Reproduced with permission of Miss Ethel F. McCollough.*

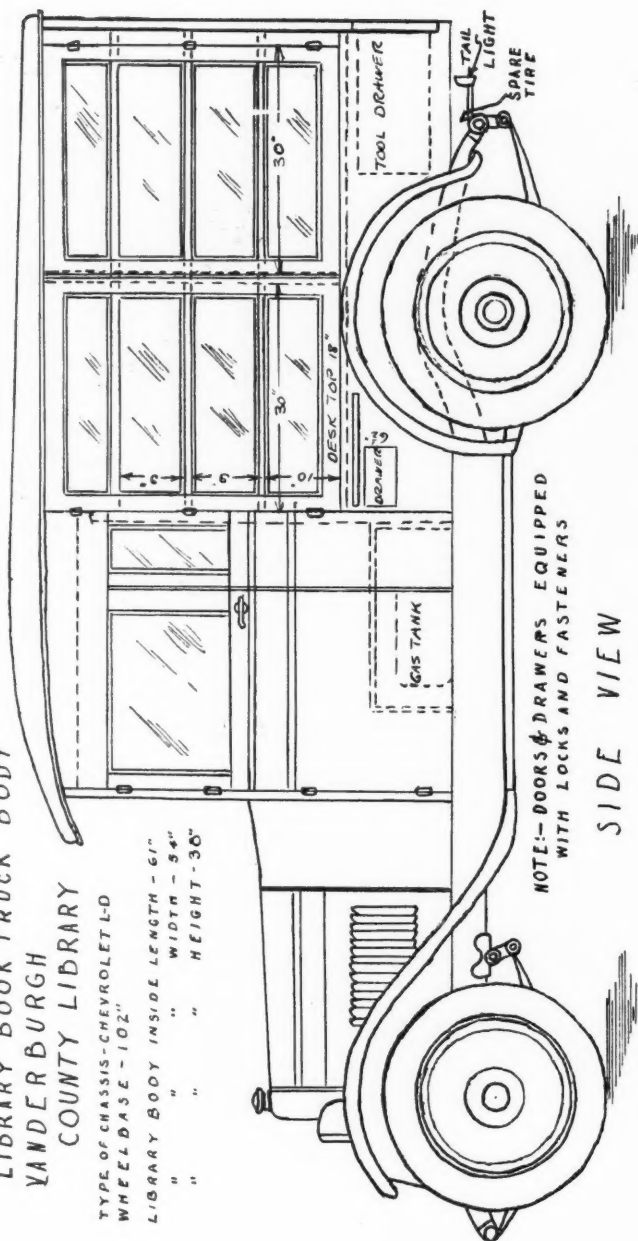
Every bit of outside space above the wheels has been utilized for books but every book can be reached from the ground by a person of average height. The boy next to the girl is resting his books on a slide which pulls out between the wheels. Below the shelf is a drawer which holds charging implements and accessories. The librarian is charging a book on the hinged shelf which pulls up by the driver's seat. This is especially good in stormy weather.

The magazine racks are at the back of the book shelves on one side of the car. The rest of the space on the inside of the car is for boxes of books being taken to school stations, or returned to the library. The drawer at the back of the car underneath is for tools. The spare tire is carried underneath the car. All sliding shelves, drawers and doors lock.

LIBRARY BOOK TRUCK BODY  
VANDERBURGH  
COUNTY LIBRARY

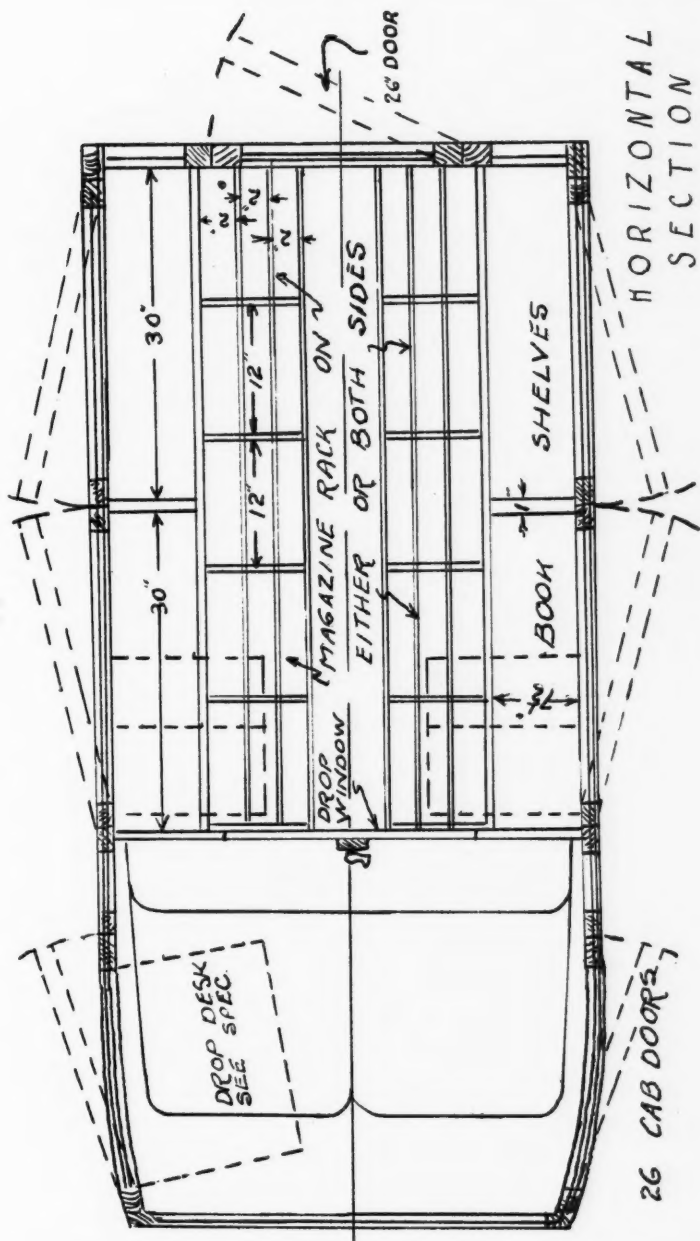
TYPE OF CHASSIS - CHEVROLET L-D  
WHEELBASE - 102"

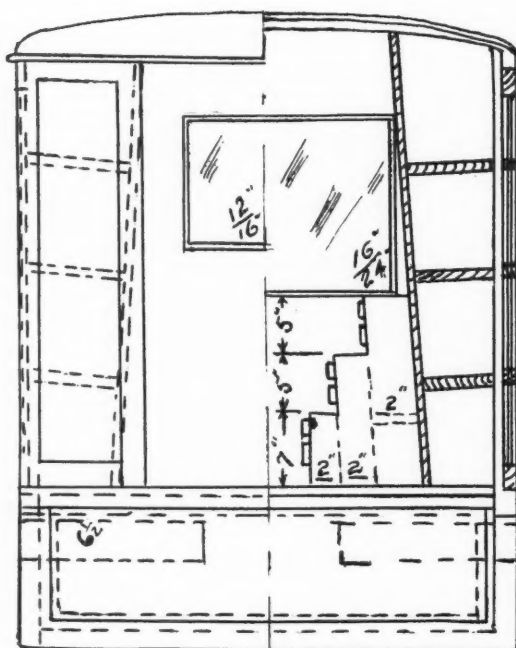
LIBRARY BODY INSIDE LENGTH - 61"  
" " " WIDTH - 54"  
" " " HEIGHT - 36"



NOTE:- DOORS & DRAWERS EQUIPPED  
WITH LOCKS AND FASTENERS

SIDE VIEW





END  
VIEW

VERTICAL  
SECTION

The summer work went well with a gain of 1,660 from May to August. At the end of the year the county has the following stations: 46 public schools, one Catholic school, three stores, two homes, and Blue Grass Community House, making 53 in all. There were 495 station visits made; 369 route visits and 45 visits for overdue books. The total number of card holders in the county is 3,031, 72 less than last year.

The book stock of the county was increased by the purchase of 2,035 volumes, at a cost of \$2,553.41, and the gift of 102 volumes. Of the 2,137 books added, 611 were for grown-ups and 1,526 for children. The withdrawals for the year numbered 306. The total book stock at the end of the year is 18,110. Of these 12,423 are children's books.

The new book wagon was purchased in May. Its advantages are many and it is a source of pleasure both to the people of the county and the librarian. It is less expensive to operate than the old car; there is no comparison in the ease and speed of selecting books; the magazines are displayed to better advantage and with less damage to them. While on display at the West Baden meeting it attracted a great deal of attention.

A new feature of the work is the issuing of a mimeographed bulletin or broad-sheet called "Books and Notes." One number was issued in June, another in October, and a third will be forthcoming in January. It contains an account of the work being done, statistics, lists, and new book titles. Our patrons read it with apparent interest.

Mimeographed copies of a list of "Fifty best books for farmers" were mailed to members of the Farm Bureau.

The county took an active part in the Children's Book Week Pageant and sent a goodly number to the two performances.

ETHEL F. MCCOLLOUGH.

Make democracy sound by making it intelligent.—William S. Learned, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

#### THE RESEARCH LIBRARY OF THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY (INDIANA) AT WHITING

In connection with its Research Laboratory at the Whiting Refinery, the Standard Oil Company (Indiana) maintains a technical library. This library serves principally the research staff, but also gives assistance to other departments of the refinery and to the sales organization.

The library is located in the laboratory building, in a well-lighted room about 15 x 30 feet in size. This provides space for bookcases, periodical rack, readers' table and chairs, librarian's desk and information and report files. In order to save the books as much as possible from the injurious effect of the smoke and fumes which are an unavoidable part of an industrial plant, the cases are of the glass-front sectional variety. This of course places some limitation on the way the stacks are built up and also on the arrangement of certain quarto and folio size sets, but the saving of the bindings more than compensates for any irregularity which results.

The collection contains between 2,500 and 3,000 volumes, of which the larger number are bound sets of important periodicals. Among the more valuable of these sets are: a complete set including current subscription of Liebig's *Annalen der Chemie*, *Berichte der Deutschen Chemischen Gesellschaft*, *Chemical Abstracts*, *Journal of the Institution of Petroleum Technologists and Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*. In addition there are sets which are approximately complete of the *Journals of the American Chemical Society*, the *London Chemical Society*, the *Society of Chemical Industry*, and other chemical and technical journals.

The library at present receives around 60 or 70 current periodicals, all of which relate very definitely to the business of the company. There are, however, no journals which are primarily of the economic and business management class. While most of the journals are in English, there are sev-

eral of the important German and two of the French magazines which form an important part of the library's resources.

The books are classified by the Dewey Decimal system; magazines, either bound or unbound, receive no classification. The bound sets are arranged according to convenience for use.

The card catalogue of books comprises a shelf list, an author index and a subject and title index.

Current issues of magazines are scanned by the librarian and pertinent articles are indexed according to a subject classification based on the decimal system used in the Bureau of Mines Bibliographies of petroleum and allied substances. Cards are typed for the articles thus indexed and each week a list of "Library References" is compiled from these cards, copied on the duplicator and sent out to members of the staff. This list also includes any laboratory development reports which may have been written and books and patents received during the week. The cards are filed in a special file, by index number and then chronologically and by magazine, so a fairly complete bibliography of the material in the library on the subjects covered is available, for at least the last four or five years during which such cards have been made.

The laboratory development reports, classified by the same system, are kept in vertical files in the library.

A file of pertinent patents forms another source of information which is exceedingly useful. These are arranged alphabetically by patentee, with a numerical index giving identifying information, and a special index of assignees. Of course subject cards for the patents, under the same classification as the journal articles and reports, are included in the reference catalog which is separate from the catalog of books.

Many of the journals which are currently received are sent to the bindery when volumes are complete and thus become part of the permanent holdings of the library. However, there are many others which are

of less value and which would soon crowd the library out of its quarters if allowed to accumulate indefinitely. At present the practice is to keep such magazines for at least a year in a storage cupboard in another part of the building. When they are more than a year old, they are brought back to the library, examined by the librarian and clipped. All articles which have been cited in the reference lists are saved, and occasionally others are added which may not have seemed so important when they were first received, or in which interest has developed later.

These clippings are filed, by index number, in special vertical files along with government documents and other pamphlet material. Of course the publications of the Bureau of Mines and the Bureau of Standards form a valuable part of this collection.

The collection of books deals with chemistry—general, physical, organic and industrial—engineering particularly as related to steam raising, automotive engineering, lubrication, and of course petroleum technology, with special emphasis on refining methods and products.

Books are lent with very slight restrictions to members of the research staff and in some instances to other employees. As there is nothing of purely recreational nature in the collection, it is assumed that if a man wishes to borrow a book, it is to the benefit of the company to allow him to take it.

New books are ordered after they have been recommended or approved by one of the Directors of Research at the laboratory. Volumes in a few important sets, such as Beilstein's *Handbuch der organischen Chemie*, and Mellor's *Comprehensive treatise*, are ordered as soon as notice is received of publication.

The library is under the charge of a trained librarian who receives some clerical or stenographic assistance from the stenographers regularly employed by the Chemical Research Department.

M. ISABELLA BROKAW.

## UNION MAGAZINE LIST

## Evansville Public Library

As there are in Evansville a Central Library and six branches, an Extension Department, the library of Evansville College and the Willard Library (an endowed library open to the public) all doing reference work with magazines and all having different magazine stocks, a complete list, easily consulted, became necessary.

Each branch librarian, the Willard librarian, and the college librarian sent in on "P" slips, one slip for each title, a record of the entire stock of magazines at that particular library. These were consolidated and on heavy catalogue cards entries were made of the volumes at the different libraries, arranged alphabetically by branches, for the Stations Department, for the Willard Library, and the Evansville College Library. Each library, therefore, has available for the use of staff and public a complete list on durable cards of all the periodicals in all of the libraries of the city arranged alphabetically by title. Such a list is easily revised as new titles are added or other changes made in the files at any one library.

As many students and other patrons use more than one library in the city this record is most convenient. Also unbound periodicals are subject to interlibrary loan.

RACHEL AGG.

## Country Life Conference

The annual National Country Life Conference is to be held this year June 19-21 at the University of Illinois.

The A. L. A. Committee on Library Extension, the Illinois Library Association and the Library Extension Division of the Illinois State Library are planning for a library exhibit and a luncheon or dinner for the librarians who are present. Miss Anna May Price will be glad to know of any who are expecting to attend.

André Maurois, a recent visitor to our shores, had this to say on the writing of biography, of which "Ariel" is his best known example. "The good biographer must be first of all a good historian. He must have the novelist's gift, too, but first of all he must be sure of his facts. I don't agree with the view that the historical novelist can be careless of his history: if a novel deserves to be called historical it should not falsify the facts. But the novelist can add and embellish, he can invent characters and conversations. The biographer must stick to his record. The old school biographer began somewhat as follows: "On such and such a date this great man was born." But he was not born a great man. How did he become great? What shaped him this way instead of that? The people who influenced his life—the modern biographer brings them into the story as they came into his life, introduces them to the reader as they introduced themselves to the hero. Also from the novelist the new biographer borrows the art of selection. If the author of the old school "Life and Times" found that three thousand of his hero's letters had been preserved he printed them all. The modern biographer takes what he finds useful and ignores the rest. So did Shakespeare. So did Rembrandt."

—Cumulative Book Index.

Books! Books! Books!  
And we thank thee, God,  
For the gift of them  
For the glorious reach  
And the lift of them;  
For the gleam in them  
And the dream in them;  
For the songs they teach  
And the souls they reach!  
For the maze of them  
And the blaze of them!  
For the ways they open to us  
And the rays that they shoot through us!

—Wm. L. Stidger.

## BOOK NOTES AND BOOK LISTS

A very practical book on conservation has been written by Dr. Wm. Newton Logan, head of the department of economic geology at Indiana University and geologist for the state conservation department. The title is "Elements of Practical Conservation." The topics discussed are Land, Forests, Soil, Fertilizer, Water, Irrigation, Navigation and Mineral Resources. The author's method has been to present information regarding the nature of the resource and the source of its waste and to suggest methods for its conservation. Valuable statistics concerning conditions in the various states are an important feature of the book. Published by the author. \$2.25.

"Bang Bang" by George Ade is a collection of stories "Intended to Recall Memories of the Nickel Library Days When Boys Were Supermen and Murder a Fine Art." These were first printed in the Chicago Record in the late nineties. They are, according to the author, "boiled-down imitations of the haymow literature which was denounced by parents and encouraged by boys from the time of Horace Greeley up to the golden age ushered in by the comic strip." The book is illustrated by John T. McCutcheon. J. H. Sears & Co., New York. \$2.00.

Chansler, Walter S. "The River Trapper." This is the first book of an Indiana author who now lives at Mitchell, Indiana. It tells of the life of a houseboat dweller and his river wanderings. Much of the author's trapping was done along the Wabash and the Ohio Rivers. The Hunter-Trader Trapper Co., Columbus, Ohio. \$1.00.

Millis, William Alfred. "A History of Hanover College from 1827 to 1927." Mr. Millis, who is president of the college, has written a comprehensive history of its activities consisting of 294 pages. Published by the College, Hanover, Ind.

Williams, Charles R. "The Return of the Prodigal and Other Religious Poems." Mr.

Williams, who died last year, was for twenty years editor of the Indianapolis News. This book contains, in addition to "The Return of the Prodigal," which was first published in 1912, about forty short lyrics. Bobbs-Merrill Co. \$2.00.

Harrison, John S. "The Vital Interpretation of English Literature." Published by the author. \$2.50. The author is professor of English at Butler University. The book is divided into three parts: the Universal Elements of Literature; the Psychological Elements of Literature, and the Traditional Elements of Literature.

"Problems in furniture design and construction," by Madsen and Lukowitz, is a new publication of the Bruce Publishing Co. About fifty projects are presented with photographs, descriptions and working drawings. Each object is tasteful and worthy of a place in good homes. Problems are best suited to those with some experience. \$3.00.

A list of Some books on Music in the Indiana State Library was printed for distribution at the annual meeting of the Indiana Federation of Music Clubs. It is a selection of titles on music appreciation and history of music. Copies will be sent on request.

The Picture Collection, one of the series of Modern American Library Economy, as illustrated by the Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library, has been issued in a third revised edition by the H. W. Wilson Co. at \$1.25. Mr. Dana states that "Information has perhaps been more often asked for by librarians and others on our picture collection than on any other subject which has been covered in the pamphlets thus far issued in this series." Particularly valuable is the forty-page "List of subject headings under which pictures are filed." The detailed and exact information so well illustrated given in this pamphlet will be very valuable to anyone engaged in forming a picture collection.

The play "Mother Library's Tea Party," written by Miss Elizabeth Hamilton of the Marion Public Library, has been accepted for publication by the H. W. Wilson Company. It was presented as a feature of Book Week in Marion last November.

"Another Hoosier has come into his own in his first novel, 'High Ground,' written under the pen name of Jonathan Brooks, but who in reality is John Calvin Mellett of Indianapolis, a former Indiana university man, writer of numerous short stories and married to a former daughter of the 'Old Post,' Miss Harriet Brooks. Vincennes, too, has a pride in this author and the success of his novel. The story has to deal with James Andrew Marvin, a newspaper editor of a generation ago in a western town—Summit. The story is told by his four sons and one daughter, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Ruth, his biographers, thus named for the religious zeal of their forefathers. Each child gives its own touch to the story as he knew his father. James Marvin met with some failures, as some might term it, in the course of life's events but he reached the pinnacle of success in that never once did he step aside from the 'High Ground' of right and principle. When Mr. Mellett was asked for the inspiration of his novel he said 'That he had drawn it from years of study of the newspaper business in many parts of the country.' He said, 'The hero of the story is a monument to the old-time fighting newspaper editor who stood on political, civic and spiritual "high ground" in the Indiana of the nineties and helped give the state its honorable name among the American commonwealths.' You will enjoy reading this book, incidents of family life, some laughter, some pathos and most of all the noble character of James Marvin, who never lost sight of his ideal 'High Ground.'"

—J. K. in Vincennes Commercial.

Audubon bird cards make a useful form for the display of colored bird pictures in the library as well as for circulation to teachers and others. There are two sets of post card size entitled "Fifty winter

birds of Eastern North America," "Fifty Spring birds of Eastern North America." The reverse of each card carries a short biography of the bird figured. They are prepared under the supervision of Dr. Frank M. Chapman and may be procured at a dollar per set from the National Association of Audubon Societies, 1974 Broadway, New York City.

### HELPS FOR LIBRARY EXTENSION

Publications that will help to an understanding of rural and county libraries are increasing in number and usefulness. The following are published by the A. L. A. and are recommended for their helpfulness, some to the librarian and some to the general public.

Books for town and country. 1928. 16p.

A popular illustrated leaflet on county library service. Planned for general distribution.

A county library. 1921. 4p.

For distribution wherever it is desired to create or stimulate interest in this subject.

The county library comes home to the people, circular.

A small reproduction of the two color map described below. Verso gives a brief explanation of what a county library is, how established, managed and supported. Folds to fit a number 10 envelope.

The county library comes home to the people, poster-map. Paul Paine.

Map of a typical county showing how the county library reaches the people. A graphic representation in two colors.

County library service. Harriet C. Long. 1925. 205p. Cloth, \$1.90.

A survey of the county library movement and a useful practical manual for all county library workers. Contains a wealth of detail and specific information. Illustrated index.

Equalizing library opportunities. 1927. 6p.

A popular presentation of objectives and findings of the Committee on Library Extension.

How to organize a county library campaign. 11p. Mimeographed.

Library extension, a study of public library conditions and needs. Committee on Li-

brary Extension. 1926. 163p. Cloth, \$1.75.

Information about the 50,000,000 people in the United States and Canada without public library service with suggestions for promoting library development. Of interest to the general reader, trustee or librarian wishing to extend existing service or to the community wishing to establish service where it does not already exist. Tables give detailed information for each state and province.

Material and plans for a county library campaign. Compiled by Forrest B. Spaulding. 1923. 47p. Mimeographed.

Suggested news stories, editorials, feature stories, interviews, and advice about publicity. Each article mimeographed on a separate perforated page ready to be torn out as needed for publication. Blanks are left for insertion of local names.

Rural public library service; a handbook for rural leaders. 1928. 16p.

Essential information about state and county service, etc.

Why not; a drama with a purpose. Harriet C. Long. 1926. 8p.

Dramatization of the arguments for and against a county library presented before an open meeting of a county board. Appropriate for presentation at women's clubs, grange, farm bureau and community meetings.

Why we need a public library; a clip sheet for newspapers and magazines. Compiled by the Committee on Library Extension. 1927. 23p.

Quotations and short articles which can be clipped or rewritten for local newspapers. Useful publicity material for the established library and for the community engaged in a campaign for public library service.

Annual report of the Committee on Library Extension. 1926-27. 13p.

### WANTED

Has any library in the State a copy of the Militia Law passed at the second session of the Indiana General Assembly, 1817-18? The Historical Bureau of the State Library and Historical Department is anxious to secure a complete copy for comparison, in the making up of a checklist of Indiana laws.

One badly mutilated copy, minus title page and part of the text, is on file with other session laws at the State Library.

No other copy has so far been located in any library or private collection, though a Joint Resolution printed with the Militia Law provides for the printing of a thousand copies for distribution to the counties, and to the officers of the militia.

Any information about a copy of this law, or about any private collection of early laws which might contain it, will be most gratefully received by the Historical Bureau, 334 State House, Indianapolis.

### STATE LIBRARY ADDITIONS

This is a list of some of the newer books recently added to the State Library. These titles will serve to give a general idea of the kind of books bought and some of the more special items. Books will be sent to individuals when they have no local library service, otherwise loans are made through local libraries.

#### PHILOSOPHY—PSYCHOLOGY

Adams, Evangeline. Astrology; your place in the sun. Dodd, 1928.

Flower, J. Cyril. Approach to the psychology of religion. Harcourt, 1927.

Lewis, Wyndham. Time and western man. Harcourt, 1928.

Russell, Bertrand. Philosophy. Norton, 1927.

Thompson, Mehran K. Springs of human action. Appleton, 1927.

#### EDUCATION

Barker, Lewellys Franklin. Young man and medicine. Macmillan 1928.

Patton and Field. Eight o'clock chapel; a study of New England college life in the eighties. Houghton 1927.

Proctor, William Martin, ed. Junior college; its organization and administration. Stanford univ. pr. 1927.

Thorndike, Edward Lee et al. Measurement of intelligence. Columbia univ. N. Y. n.d.

Thwing, Charles Franklin. American and the German university; one hundred years of history. Macmillan, 1928.

Wanger, Ruth. What girls can do. Holt, 1926.

#### ECONOMICS—SOCIOLOGY

Auld, George P. Dawes plan and the new economics. Doubleday, 1927.

Clark and Eubank. Lockstep and corridor; thirty-five years of prison life. Univ. of Cincinnati pr., 1927.

Cleveland, Frederick Albert. American citizenship; as distinguished from alien status. Ronald pr., 1927.

Feldman, Herman. Prohibition; its economic and industrial aspects. Appleton, 1927.

Langdon-Davies, John. Short history of women. Viking pr., 1927.

Woodson, Carter G. Negro in our history. 4th ed. Associated pub. co., 1927.

#### SCIENCE

Ash, Edward C. Dogs; their history and development. Houghton, n.d.

Buckley, H. Short history of physics. Van Nostrand, 1927.

Grey, Edward. Charm of birds. Stokes, 1927.

Lunt, Joseph R. Everyday electricity. Macmillan, 1927.

McKenzie, Dan. Infancy of medicine. Macmillan, 1927.

#### BUSINESS—INDUSTRY

Epstein, Ralph C. Automobile industry; its economic and commercial development. Shaw, 1928.

Frankfurter & Landis. Business of the Supreme court: a study in the federal judicial system. Macmillan, 1927.

Knights, Charles C. Business man's guide to printing. Macmillan, 1927.

Pirtle, Thomas Ross. History of the dairy industry. Mojonnier, 1926.

Seligman, Edwin. Economics of instalment selling; a study in consumers' credit with special reference to the automobile. Harper, 1927.

#### FINE ARTS

Bowen, Frank C. From Carrack to Clipper; a book of sailing-ship models. Minton, 1927.

Clark, Hartley. Bohkara, Turkoman and Afghan. London, Lane, 1922.

Eberlein and Ramsdell. Practical book of Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese furniture. Lippincott, 1927.

Fox, Helen Morgenthau. Garden cinderellas; how to grow lilies. Macmillan, 1928.

Gillman, Frederick John. Evolution of the English hymn. Macmillan, 1927.

Guillaume and Munro. Primitive negro sculpture. Harcourt, 1926.

Humphreys, Arthur L. Old decorative maps and charts. Minton, 1926.

McClelland, Nancy. Historic wall-papers. Lippincott, 1924.

Macquoid and Edwards. Dictionary of English furniture from the middle ages to the late Georgian period. Scribner, 1927.

Percival, Maciver. Chintz book. Stokes, n.d.

Quackenbush, Alice T. Annuals of flowerland. Macmillan, 1927.

Rockwell, Frederick Frye. Book of bulbs: a guide to the selection, planting . . . Macmillan, 1927.

Stagg and Stout. Touchdown! Longmans, 1927.

Welch, Roy Dickinson. Appreciation of music. Harper, 1927.

#### PAINTING

Abbot, Edith R. Great painters; in relation to the European tradition. Harcourt, 1927.

- Allen, Edward B. Early American wall paintings, 1710-1850. Yale, 1926.  
 Blake, Vernon. Art and craft of drawing. Oxford, 1927.  
 Rankin, Herbert A. Pastel work; or, Colour with crayon. Pitman, n.d.  
 Strange, Edward Fairbrother. Colour-prints of Hiroshige. Stokes, n.d.

## THEATRE

- Emerson and Loos. How to write photo-plays. Jacobs, 1920.  
 Isaacs, Edith J. R. ed. Theatre; essays on the arts of the theatre. Little, 1927.  
 Mills and Dunn. Marionettes, masks and shadows. Doubleday, 1927.  
 Nicoll, Allardyce. Development of the theatre. Harcourt, 1927.  
 Quinn, Arthur Hobson. History of the American drama from the Civil war to the present day. 2 v. v. 1—From Augustin Daly to the death of Clyde Fitch. v. 2—From William Vaughn Moody to the present day. Harper, 1927.

## LITERATURE

- Bennett, James O'Donnell. Much loved books; best sellers of the ages. Live-right, 1927.  
 Gaige, Grace, ed. Recitations for younger children. Appleton, 1927.  
 Goldsmith, Oliver. New essays; now first collected and edited with an introduction and notes by Ronald S. Crane. Univ. of Chicago pr., 1927.  
 Heartman, Charles F., ed. New England primer issued prior to 1830; a bibliographical checklist. Heartman, 1922.  
 Judson, Alexander Corbin, ed. Seventeenth-century lyrics. Univ. of Chic. pr., 1927.  
 Mencken, Henry Louis. Prejudices; sixth series. Knopf, 1927.  
 Michaud, Regis. American novel today; a social and psychological study. Little, 1928.  
 Prescott, Frederick Clarke. Poetry and myth. Macmillan, 1927.  
 Richards, Mrs. Waldo, comp. Love's high way. Houghton, 1927.

- Schauffler, Robert Haven, comp. Poetry cure; a pocket medicine chest of verse. Dodd, 1927.  
 Taylor, Warner, ed. Essays of the past and present. Harper, 1927.  
 Thoreau, Henry David. Heart of Thoreau's journals; edited by Odell Shepard. Houghton, 1927.

## TRAVEL

- Adams, H. C. Travellers' tales; a book of marvels. Boni, 1927.  
 Artist's London; as seen in eighty contemporary pictures; with essays by John Drinkwater, Wilfred Whitten, James Laver, W. P. Robbins. Castle, 1924.  
 Balderson, Marion. Here is England. McBride, 1927.  
 Baum, James Edwin. Savage Abyssinia. Sears, 1927.  
 Comstock, Sarah. Roads to the revolution. Macmillan, 1928.  
 David-Neel, Alexandra. My journey to Lhasa. Harper, 1927.  
 Dell, Anthony. Llama land; east and west of the Andes in Peru. Doran, 1927.  
 Fox, Frank, Australia. Black, 1927.  
 Laughlin, Clara Elizabeth. So you're going to France! and if I were going with you, these are the things I'd invite you to do. Houghton, 1927.  
 Ludy, Robert Borneman. Historic hotels of the world; past and present. McKay, 1927.  
 McBride, Robert Medill. Towns and people of modern Germany. McBride, 1927.  
 Macmillan, Donald Baxter. Etah and beyond; or, Life within twelve degrees of the pole. Houghton, 1927.  
 Monroe, Paul. China; a nation in evolution. Macmillan, 1928.  
 Mordaunt, Elinor. Further venture book. Century, 1927.  
 Muirhead, Findlay, ed. Scotland. Macmillan, 1927.  
 Mukerji, Dhan Gopal. Son of mother India answers. Dutton, 1928.  
 Rawlings, Gertrude Burford. Old London. Little, 1927.

- Russell, Charles M. Trails plowed under. Doubleday, 1927.  
 Vernon, Paul E. Morocco from a motor. Macmillan, 1927.  
 Wilstach, Paul. Mount Vernon: Washington's home and the nation's shrine. Doubleday, 1927.

## BIOGRAPHY

- Atkinson, J. Brooks. Henry Thoreau, the cosmic Yankee. Knopf, 1927.  
 Ballard, Colin Robert. Military genius of Abraham Lincoln; an essay. Oxford univ. pr., 1926.  
 Belloc, Hilaire. Danton. Putnam, 1928.  
 ———. Robespierre: a study. Putnam, 1927.  
 Carco, Francis. Romance of Villon. Knopf, 1927.  
 Cooper, Anice Page. Authors and others. Doubleday, 1927.  
 Hertz, Emanuel, ed. Abraham Lincoln: the tribute of the synagogue. Bloch, 1927.  
 Hone, Philip. Diary of . . . 1828-1851; edited with an introduction by Allan Nevins. Dodd, 1927.  
 Hortense, queen consort. Memoirs of Queen Hortense; published by arrangement with Prince Napoleon. Cosmopolitan, 1927.  
 Ludwig, Emil. Genius and character; translated by Kenneth Burke. Harcourt, 1927.  
 Peabody, Francis Greenwood. Reminiscences of present-day saints. Houghton, 1927.  
 Pourtales, Guy de, comte. Polonaise; the life of Chopin. Holt, 1927.  
 Rowland, Mrs. Dunbar. Varina Howell, wife of Jefferson Davis. Macmillan, 1927.  
 Stanislavsky, Constantin. My life in art. Little, 1927.  
 Stoddard, Henry L. As I knew them; presidents and politics from Grant to Coolidge. Harper, 1927.  
 Thaddeus, Victor. Julius Caesar and the grandeur that was Rome. Brentano, 1927.  
 Van Doren, Mark. Edwin Arlington Robinson. Literary Guild, 1927.

- Ward, Henshaw. Charles Darwin; the man and his warfare. Bobbs, 1927.  
 Washington, George. Washington speaks for himself; by Lucretia Perry Osborn. Scribner, 1927.

## HISTORY

- Bober, Mandell Morton. Karl Marx's interpretation of history. Harvard, 1927.  
 Fay, Bernard. Revolutionary spirit in France and America; a study of moral and intellectual relations between France and the United States at the end of the eighteenth century. Harcourt, 1927.  
 Figgis, Darrell. Recollections of the Irish war. Doubleday, n.d.  
 Fitzpatrick, Benedict. Ireland and the foundations of Europe. Funk, 1927.  
 Hall and Wooley. Ur excavations. (British museum and Pennsylvania, Univ. of—Museum. Publications of joint expedition to Mesopotamia.) Oxford, 1927.  
 Hall, Joseph Washington. Revolt of Asia; the end of the white man's world dominance. Putnam, 1927.  
 Radin, Paul. Story of the American Indian. Boni, 1927.  
 Rawson, Jonathan. 1776, a day-by-day story. Stokes, 1927.  
 Osborn, Henry Fairfield. Man rises to Parnassus; critical epochs in the prehistory of man. Princeton, 1927.  
 Peak and Fleure. Peasants and potters. (Corridors of time. v. 3.) Yale univ. pr., 1927.

## Indiana Publications Received at the State Library in February, 1928

- Blind, School for. Report 1927.  
 Fire Prevention Quarterly, 1st Quarter 1928 (Statistical number).  
 \*Health, Board of. Bul. v. 31, No. 1, Jan., 1928.  
 \*Historical Bureau. Indiana History Bulletin v. 5, No. 4, Jan., 1928.  
 Industrial Board. Report 1927.  
 \*Public Instruction, Dept. of. Directory of Indiana School Officials 1927-1928.  
 \*Public Instruction, Dept. of. "State Music Achievement Contest."

\* Not given to the Library for distribution.

\*Public Instruction, Dept. of. Bul. No. 96. "Sketches from our Constitutional History."

Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home. Report 1927.

Tax Commissioners and County Assessors, State Board of. Proceedings 1927.

Woman's Prison. Report 1927.  
March, 1928.

Charities, Board of. Bulletin No. 155, Feb., 1928.

Contains "Conference on Mental Health, and Proceedings of 12th Annual Meeting of the Indiana Society for Mental Hygiene Dec. 5, 1927."

\*Health, Board of. Bulletin v. 31, No. 2, Feb., 1928.

\*Insurance Department. 7th report, 1927.

Richmond State Hospital (formerly Eastern Hospital for Insane). Report 1927.

State Farm. Report 1927.

## SCHOOL LIBRARY NOTES

*Alexandria.* The libraries of both senior and junior high schools were organized in February. Miss Merceda Covalt is supervising the senior high school library.

*Aurora.* The high school library was organized by the help of Miss Clark in February. Books are now shelved in the assembly room and they are making plans for a fine library room in their new high school building. Miss Florence Rolf is part-time librarian.

*Bellmore.* The high school library was organized in March under Miss Clark's supervision. This is a very well selected collection of books for a small school.

*Bruceville.* The school library was organized in February with the help of Miss Myrtle Weatherholt, librarian of the Bicknell public library, and Miss Clark. Their collection is supplemented by books sent from the Bicknell library. With this work done, the organization of all school libraries in the district served by the Bicknell library is complete.

*Fairmount.* The high school library was reorganized by Mrs. Ivan Myers, librarian, with Miss Clark's assistance. Useless material was discarded. The collection now numbers about 2,000 volumes.

*Montgomery County.* The high school libraries at Ladoga and Wingate were organized in April. A shelf-list was made for the Crawfordsville high school library

\* Not given to the Library for distribution.

which was organized three years ago. The library in the New Richmond school will be organized early next fall. This is a good start toward a complete county and we hope will continue.

*North Salem.* The high school library and the grade room libraries of the North Salem schools were organized by Miss Clark's help in March.

*Pekin.* The high school library has been organized by Miss Wilma Bennett, teacher-librarian. The students have become very interested in collecting material and have one drawer of a vertical file full of excellent material, all free. Their own collection is supplemented by books from the State Traveling Library. The work done here is an excellent example of what can be done in a small school.

*Roseburg.* The library at the Franklin Township Consolidated grade school was organized in March. If you wish to see a fine start toward a good grade school library, visit this school.

*Wabash.* The city school board has officially dedicated the library at the new high school building here and named it "The Adelaide Baylor library." Miss Baylor, formerly superintendent of city schools here and the first woman in Indiana to hold such a position, recently gave more than 1,000 volumes to the library. She is now working in the bureau of education at Washington.

## PERSONALS

Miss Eda M. Barnes has been chosen as assistant in the Greenfield public library to succeed Miss Jeanette Crider, who resigned in March.

Miss Ruth Bean, assistant librarian of the Evansville public library, has taken a leave of absence on account of her health. She may spend some time with friends in California.

Miss Bernice Brand has resigned from the Ft. Wayne public library.

Mrs. Ruth Castle Doner recently surprised her friends by announcing her marriage of January 15, 1927. Mrs. Doner was in the 1927 summer school and has resigned from the Brookville public library to move to Indianapolis.

Miss Ruth Dodson has been appointed assistant librarian in the Cambridge City public library to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Gertrude Routh.

Miss Irma Garrett, summer school '21, was recently married to Harold W. Seigle, Chemical Engineer of the Elkhart Rubber Works and a recent graduate of Tri-State College. She has resigned her position as librarian of the Angola public library effective June 1, 1928. They expect to make their home in Elkhart.

A memorial tribute to the late Mrs. Julia N. Harney was prepared for the Lebanon library board by Mrs. J. C. Darnall. It was adopted, published and recorded. Mrs. Harney was secretary of the board for seventeen years and never missed a meeting. As secretary, she aided in securing Carnegie funds for the building in 1905 and was always a staunch friend of the library.

Mrs. Ruth Dixon Kershaw, formerly a member of the St. Louis Library staff, has been appointed senior assistant in the Circulation department of the Indianapolis public library.

Miss Helen Knight, assistant in the Goshen public library, was married January 27th to C. W. Stipe of West Unity, Ohio, and will reside there.

Miss Marie L. Lucier has been added to the staff of the Vincennes public library.

Miss Minnie McBee has been chosen as assistant librarian at Linden.

Miss Jane North, librarian of the Vevay public library, and her mother spent four months of the winter in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Miss Vera Orewiler, who has been assistant at the Angola public library, will succeed Mrs. Seigle as librarian June first.

Mrs. Luella B. Wagner, librarian of the Carlisle public library, broke her left arm by a fall on the street in January.

Miss Isabel Reading, county librarian in the Vanderburgh-Evansville library, was married on March 2d to Frederick Francis Stark. She will continue with the library until June.

Miss Ruth Shanks, formerly a page at the Indianapolis public library, has been appointed as part-time attendant at Shelby Branch.

Miss Evelyn Snyder and Miss Esther M. Agnew, junior assistants, have resigned as members of the staff of the Indianapolis public library.

Miss Alice D. Stevens of Logansport is back at work after a four weeks' struggle with the effects of an appendicitis operation.

Mrs. Elmer Waters, who is an institute speaker from Purdue University, has given a book talk at a number of farm institutes. She calls it "Hidden treasures" and recommends a number of worthwhile books for reading.

## NEWS OF INDIANA LIBRARIES

*Anderson.* The library received three of the 58 good will dolls sent to America by Japanese children for exhibition at a doll festival on March second. This is the same day as the doll festival which is held in all parts of Japan. The dolls were displayed in a setting of cherry blossoms and other effects to lend it a Japanese atmosphere. A tea, reception and special story hours were included in the events of the week.

*Attica.* Wilbert M. Allen, formerly of Attica, but now in Wheeling, W. Va., has given the public library \$100 for the purchase of books.

*Centerville.* The public library was moved April 1st into a larger room on Main street. Added book cases and some new fixtures create a different atmosphere and not only Mrs. Minnie M. Wright, the librarian, but the public as well, appreciate the neat and commodious room with its 4,000 books.

*Deatur.* The Community training school has presented to the public library 150 volumes relating to religious education, well selected and particularly useful to those in the school.

*Elwood.* The Art Association held an exhibit of paintings in the library in February. The artist was Mrs. Leota Williams Loop of Kokomo who was present one day and gave a demonstration of painting methods. Other special meetings drew attention to the exhibit.

*Evansville.* The public library staff has issued invitations to a Home Coming June second and third of all former members of the staff. Miss Clothilde Kerney of the Central Library is secretary. More than 150 persons have been connected with the Evansville libraries and are invited to attend.

The Henry Reis branch library was opened February 3d in the Henry Reis school. It started as a deposit station in 1917 and has been for a number of years a school station. The Parent-Teacher Association of the

school has given continuous co-operation.

A collection of several hundred medical books, a book case and six chairs have been received by the Central public library as the gift of the Lancet Club. Space has been set aside in the basement for reference and study use. All medical books presented in the future are to be examined by the Lancet Club library committee headed by Dr. William Ehrich to eliminate out-of-date material.

*Franklin.* The public library board adopted resolutions at its April meeting in eulogy of Robert M. Miller who died Feb. 29th. Mr. Miller was president of the board for seventeen years from the date of its starting in 1911 and gave generously of his time to problems of library management and progress.

*Gary.* The Alcott branch was moved April 1st to the corner of Connecticut and 18th streets. The new location will be more convenient. Miss Anna Heveder will continue in charge.

A four page folder of Books on the American negro was issued by the public library in February.

The library broadcasts every Friday over WJKS, the program on every fourth Friday being devoted to the juvenile department.

The seventh annual Book Review was held April 3d, seven books of eminent interest being discussed. The Ambridge Glee Club furnished music.

The regular March staff meeting at the library was opened to the public. Cleveland Grant of the Field Museum, Chicago gave a talk on scientific books and other members of the staff reviewed books in special subdivisions of science.

*Greenfield.* Dr. B. S. Binford who was appointed administrator of the estate of Miss Anna Chittenden, whose will gave her estate to the library, has made his report showing that the library will receive \$2,849.40 from the estate after all expenses

are paid. It was proposed, but no action taken, that a part of this be set aside for a permanent trust fund and the proceeds used to establish and maintain a children's nook at the library in honor of Miss Chitenden.

*Indianapolis.* The Training Class of the Indianapolis public library finished the 10th annual course March 30th. Following is the list of appointments:

Brown, Gertrude M., assistant Order Dept.

Buckley, Mrs. Frances P., assistant Loan Desk.

Carpenter, Elizabeth E., catalog department, State Library.

Clark, Elizabeth L., assistant South Grove Branch.

Cottingham, Virginia, assistant Stations Dept.

Cross, Helen J., assistant Madison Ave. Branch.

Garrison, Mary J., assistant Loan Desk.

Metcalf, Marjorie, assistant Loan Desk.

A May breakfast on Tuesday, May 1st, will be the last of the staff meetings of the Indianapolis public library for the year 1927-28. There will be the usual surprise-stunt program.

During Music Week in May, the Art and Music Division of the Indianapolis public library will display an exhibit of Frederick Krull's Riley Manuscripts and Riley letters.

The following exhibits have been displayed in the library during the past few months:

Exhibit of pamphlets and books on gardening.

Exhibit of travel material.

Early American objects, loaned by the Children's Museum.

First editions of local authors.

Old Indianapolis buildings.

Old books.

Shakespeare folios.

Part of the Hobby Fair from School No. 60, made by the children of all grades.

The Western Arts Association is to hold its annual meeting in Indianapolis, May

2-5. Paintings by Indianapolis artists loaned for a traveling exhibit in the schools will be displayed at this time in the Teachers' Special Library, School Board Building.

*Laporte.* The public library has a new department in its book collection, that of a complete medical library, presented by Doctors G. W. Kimball, H. H. Martin and A. R. Simon. The books were offered to the library when the donors who were members of the Laporte Clinic dissolved partnership. The northeast basement room has been shelved and arranged for medical research and reference only. The collection numbers over 560 volumes.

*Marion.* The following editorial from the Marion Leader-Tribune shows proper appreciation of a special library service.

#### It Has A Heart

The Marion library is not just an institution. It has a heart. This was never more clearly shown than in the attitude toward patients at the hospital. People who have been in hospitals, either as patients, or visitors, know there are many dreary hours. Efforts at cheerfulness are, at best, only half successful. The average patient is restless, and even lonesome. A good book will do much to detract the mind of the patient from the irksomeness of confinement. The Marion library staff visits the hospital constantly, and supplies books to the patients. This service is not compulsory. There is nothing in the rules of the library, or in the ordinances of the city, which demands it. The practice was adopted as a means of extending the library service to a place where it was certain to find an appreciative reception. We are sure the average hospital patient will agree that nothing transpires during the day which means more than the arrival of the books. After all, what greater treasure in the world than a good book? No man is alone, no man need fear the pangs of lonesomeness, or of despair, so long as he has by his side a friendly volume.

*Mishawaka.* In the LaSalle and Battell school buildings rooms have been equipped by the School Board with shelves and tables to serve as library rooms. To each has been sent the first installment of books—three hundred volumes. These deposit collections are administered by the school people. A teacher is in general charge of each and supervises the work of the four or six boys and girls who act as librarians. In the first three months enthusiasm at the LaSalle station has been high, likewise the circulation, which has been about 1,000 a month. About one-third of the books are chosen for adults, and while they do not visit the libraries very frequently, their wants are satisfied by the children or librarians who act as messengers.

*Mount Vernon.* Library week was celebrated in February. Mrs. Herbert Fitton, a trustee, spoke before the Parent-Teacher organizations, a Mother Goose playlet was presented under the direction of Miss Nolte and open house was held during the week.

*Muncie.* The library building has been redecorated and renovated throughout at a cost of \$2,400, the first time in eight years. It was not necessary to fully close at any time during the four weeks of spring cleaning.

The library published a six-page folder giving a summary of the 1927 report. With 20,469 borrowers' cards in force the collection of 60,070 volumes had a circulation of 248,131, or six per capita. Disbursements were \$27,631. The report notes that "Each year interest in a county library for Delaware County is growing. The Muncie public library is already serving many county borrowers directly, and is equipped to extend this service to everyone in the county, as soon as they realize the value of library privileges."

*Peru.* The Peru Art club sponsored an exhibit of paintings by Homer Davidson in April at the public library. Mr. Davidson came from Kokomo to visit and speak during the exhibition.

The public library received a gift of over two hundred volumes from Mrs. William Church. Included were a number of the best sets of American authors.

*Plymouth.* The G. A. R. has presented to the library its historical collection of Civil War books.

*South Bend.* South Bend's newest branch library, the Virginia M. Tutt branch located at 2003 Miami street, was formally opened. Large numbers of persons, children and adults alike, were present at the opening.

In giving the principal talk of the evening, Charles Weidler, who formerly was a member of the school and library board, paid tribute to Miss Tutt, who for 25 years served as librarian of the South Bend public library and in whose honor the branch library is dedicated.

Mr. Weidler, who has been for many years, a resident of the district served by the library, spoke of the struggle which the district's residents waged to have suitable schools established there, and pointed out that the new library is a culminating point in improving the educational facilities of the community. The new branch, he observed, will be available to students from the Riley, Lincoln and Studebaker schools.

During the opening ceremonies, a framed photograph of Miss Virginia M. Tutt was presented to the branch by Miss Tutt's family. The presentation was made by letter, and the picture was accepted for the library by Mr. Weidler.

Other speakers on the program were A. B. Thielens, who voiced the appreciation the community feels toward those who have brought about the establishment of the branch; S. B. Pettengill, president of the school and library board; Harry Weiss, Fred Weidman and Miss Ethel G. Baker, South Bend librarian.

The branch is situated in a new, one-story brick building, and is neatly and conveniently furnished with everything necessary to provide efficient service. Two thousand new books have been placed in the branch, and

any book not there may be obtained within 24 hours from the main library.

Miss Jane Aspinall, former librarian at Plymouth, will be librarian in charge of the new branch. She will be assisted by Miss Hazel Burkhart who formerly was at the River Park branch. Hours for the new library will be from 9 o'clock in the morning until 6 o'clock in the evening. On Monday and Friday nights, the library also will be open from 7 to 9 o'clock.

*Terre Haute.* One-third of the pictures in the Hoosier Salon exhibit at Chicago have been on exhibit for two weeks in the Fairbanks Memorial Library and have attracted many to the library.

*Wabash.* The Sigma Phi Gamma sorority has established the Emma Fraustein memorial room at the public library in honor of a former member of the sorority. The room is in the basement and is to be decorated and furnished by the sorority as a meeting room for civic and social organizations.

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The school library lies at the very root of the new pedagogy of individual differences. It is the heart of any program of socialized effort and individual responsibility. The new curriculum now being forged in a thousand towns and cities cries for tools of learning which shall be as good in their fields as implements of modern industry are in theirs. If the new urge toward education as a life-long project is to become general, the child must develop, in the school library, attitudes, habits, and knowledge of intellectual resources which will lead him to use public libraries and to build up his own. As the world advances, the will to learn and the technic of learning are needed more and more by the masses. In proportion as the individual has or lacks the philosophic-scientific attitude toward knowledge and life,

he wins in the struggle to make the most of himself.

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#### Consolation

The other day, depressed on the Underground, I tried to cheer myself by thinking over the joys of our human lot. But there was not one of them for which I seemed to care a hang—not Wine, nor Friendship, nor Eating, nor Making Love, nor the Consciousness of Virtue. Was it worth-while then going up in a lift into a world that had nothing less trite to offer?

Then I thought of reading—the nice subtle happiness of reading. This was enough, this joy not dulled by Age, this polite and unpunished vice, this selfish, serene, life-long intoxication.

—Logan Pearsall Smith in "Trivia."

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#### A Public Library Book

The following lines are what a book says to its users: "I am your friend, I try to please you and make you wise and happy. I tell you stories to amuse you, you would be lonesome without me, and likely very ignorant. Don't I deserve decent treatment? I was made clean and beautiful, but helpless. It grieves me to handle me carelessly or with dirty hands. It twists my back and loosens my leaves to be tossed about. You should hear me scream when dropped or banged around. Please turn my leaves carefully that I may live long and do good to others. If abused my life is short and sad. When you have read me lay me away carefully out of the reach of babies. They muss me so and make me ashamed to go to the ones who treat me right. Be sure to return me to my home—the library—when you are through with me so that I may do service for others."

—Roachdale News.



